

### FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It is timely that Henry Williamson's 'underground army' of readers should get together to form a Society dedicated to his work. Some eighty responded enthusiastically to the proposal which was made by George and Mary Heath of Langtree in Devon. There are certainly many more who will wish to join, once word reaches them. We welcome you all.

The aims of the Society are simple. To encourage a wider readership and a deeper understanding of the literary heritage left to us by Henry Williamson. This offers immensely rewarding opportunities for many people. We are especially fortunate to have the active support of the Williamson family, and John Homan's guidance as General Secretary. The Society will publish a Journal (for which contributions are most welcome), assist and initiate research, and organise occasional meetings, tours and seminars. But none of these activities are possible without your encouragement. If you have literary or other associations with Henry Williamson, or skills of use to the Society, or are contemplating research, we shall be particularly glad to hear from you.

In 1937 H.W. concluded The Children of Shallowford with these words:

In the end we all fail, and in the small personal sense, are defeated; but how we depart, and what we leave behind for those who follow on, that seems to me to be the heart of the matter called life.

John Glanfield  
Chairman